

United States Department of Justice United States Attorney's Office District of Minnesota

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News Release

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Red Lake man sentenced to 37 months for involuntary manslaughter

A 20-year-old resident of the Red Lake Indian Reservation was sentenced last week to 37 months in prison for the death of Edward John Maxwell, also of Red Lake, on June 2, 2007. United States District Court Judge Joan Ericksen also sentenced Frank Mitchell Gurno Jr. June 13 to serve three years of supervised release.

Gurno was indicted on Aug. 22, 2007, and pleaded guilty Jan. 17 to one count of involuntary manslaughter. According to his plea agreement, Gurno was driving a motor vehicle west on Minnesota State Highway 1 between Redby and Red Lake on the morning of June 2.

Gurno admitted that he was driving recklessly, in excess of the 50 mph speed limit and after he had been drinking alcohol, and that he was driving when his vehicle struck Maxwell, a pedestrian, and killed him.

This case was the result of an investigation by the Red Lake Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney William J. Otteson.